

The Times-Dispatch

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TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 1913.

THE MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

The president of the corporation of Richmond, Mayor Ahlsville, presented last night to the board of directors, or City Council, and so to the stockholders—you, the citizens—his statement of the condition, progress and needs of the great civic company. It is more important to the citizens than the report of any other enterprise in which they are interested. It has to do with the life and happiness of the people. It should be read and pondered as a guide to voting on municipal affairs. It presents in reasonably compact form the outlines of this great municipal business called Richmond. If the Young Men's Committee would put a copy in the hands of every voter, much light would be spread abroad. The Times-Dispatch cannot discuss the details, but desires to point out a few main principles now, and perhaps to expand upon them later.

The main question is: How are your departments succeeding in serving you? Is your business being run wisely or otherwise? In answer, we say that the Health Department alone is doing work of such a character as to challenge the country, and set a high mark of service. The City Engineer's office is doing admirably, though handicapped by small force and funds. Last year it handled over \$1,000,000 worth of construction for a bit more than \$25,000 in expense, or about 2 1/2 per cent. The average rate for engineers in private construction work is 5 per cent of the total cost. It is time that this essential branch of service be given more money.

The Fire and Police Departments are giving average service. There is nothing to brag about in their work. Both have been slightly improved. The increase of station men will help Richmond as a fire risk, but the lack of motor equipment and the obsolete fire alarm system are both grave menaces to life and property. In particular, the failure of water-pressure in certain sections, such as along Broad Street and to the north, makes the possibility of disastrous conflagrations very imminent. Something must be done at once to remedy a condition that makes the pumping of more than four engines impossible at some points.

In general, the water supply is satisfactory. There is small complaint, and the quality of water is excellent and healthful. Much money could be saved, however, by the installation of meters in all residences. Now the waste has to be added to the charge against the whole city. The most interesting point as to the Gas Works is that it has been put on a business accounting, with all charges laid against it, including the item of depreciation. We heartily agree with the Mayor that all public utilities should be run exactly as are private undertakings, bearing every charge. It is impossible to fix the true and just price of gas until the plant is made self-supporting.

The schools are making valiant efforts to catch up with a growing population and the long period of neglect when buildings were not added. Again, the Mayor makes a wise suggestion as to the separation of school funds from general taxes. A special levy specifically for schools is in keeping with the best modern ideas of education.

As a matter of fact, sooner or later Richmond must face the fact that the revenues are not commensurate with the size and rapid growth of the city. The present tax rate is very low in comparison with other cities. Leaving untouched the matter of the wise and economical expenditure of city funds by a capable government, we must arrange to increase the funds available. In every department there is the handicap of past inefficiency and present demands. The community is increasing in population, and will soon expand in area. There is no escaping the need for far-sighted policies. We should arrange our gas and water supplies and our streets for years in advance. We should put them on a strictly business basis. It avoids nothing to try and dodge such needs. That merely heaps up an additional burden for the future.

The Mayor's report makes interesting reading. It presents a comprehensive, concrete idea of Richmond's assets and liabilities. We hope that it will not be neglected by those who are laboring for a cleaner and nobler home for themselves and their families.

THE TREATY WITH NICARAGUA.

The treaty with Nicaragua, heard from the Taft administration by the Wilson administration, which the latter has decided to support, and which, it is believed, the Senate will ratify, since it is not only earnestly urged upon the Democratic Senators by the administration, but is known to have the endorsement of many Republican Senators, does not mean the building of another interoceanic canal, or that any one has any idea of building another, certainly in anything like the near future, at least. It is simply a protective measure. It is not aimed at monopoly of traffic, present or prospective, between the oceans.

Its objective is security of the Panama Canal and the avoidance of com-

plications with European powers. It is strategic rather than commercial, in its bearings.

By its terms this government agrees to pay to the Nicaraguan government \$3,000,000 upon the condition that the money shall be used for public works or public education; and in return the party of the second part grants the United States an exclusive and perpetual franchise for construction of a canal connecting the Atlantic and the Pacific, via the Nicaraguan route for which the Panama route was substituted, together with a naval base on the Gulf of Fonseca, which is not only one of the finest harbors on the Nicaraguan Pacific coast, but one of the finest on the whole American Pacific coast.

This ends all danger of any foreign power's acquiring such a franchise, and clears the slate of issues and questions that have been the cause of a good deal of international friction and misunderstanding over Nicaragua in the past.

Of course, the time may come when a Nicaraguan canal will be built, will be demanded, under the franchise, especially for light draft vessels, but the above are the considerations that now prompt the administration's decision to support the treaty; and considerations appealing potentially to wisdom, they would appear.

THE SITUATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

South Carolina is suffering from atavism of what was worst in Tillmanism. Conditions there now closely resemble those of the early nineties, when Tillman wrought social and political revolution by arraying class against class. Twenty years ago every South Carolinian was commonly referred to as a Tillmanite or anti-Tillmanite, just as today he is known as a Bleasite or an anti-Bleasite. Both Bleas and Tillman derived their might from successful appeals to class hatred, to blind prejudice, to the forces of ignorance and illiteracy. There are in the train of Bleas now, as there were in the train of Tillman twenty years ago, thousands of good, honest, well-meaning, upright and patriotic men. Bleas receives his most powerful support from much the same constituency that Tillman did, but no further must the parallel be drawn. Bleas has out-Heroded Herod. Tillman was a real constructive force in certain directions. Two great State schools, one for the agricultural and mechanical education of young men, and the other for the higher education of young women, are enduring monuments to Tillman's service to the common people. Bleas has simply reversed the brakes, and progress in all lines of State activity has almost been stopped in South Carolina since he clambered up the steps of demagoguery to the seat of control.

The present outlook in South Carolina completely discourages optimism. It seems to be generally agreed that Bleas is stronger to-day than he was in the last primary. Few hold to the opinion that he can be defeated for the United States senatorship when next summer he opposes Senator Ellison D. Smith, although the latter is no mean exponent when it comes to stirring up the boys, and is well and favorably known to the farmers of the State as a "savagous" advocate of 15-cent cotton. Bleas has a most efficient machine behind him, composed largely of his supporters whom he has put into office. He has said in appointing to office, "I stand by my friends, and no anti-Bleas man need apply," and he has kept his word. Some weeks ago he named a prospective Bleas candidate for Congress as a special associate justice of the State Supreme Court, and later, to like position, he appointed a candidate for a permanent associate justiceship. Through the appointive power he is constantly strengthening his forces. A large element of the population, containing much of the ignorance and illiteracy in the State, possessing neither property nor common interest with other citizens, is completely under domination. To a very large extent, Bleas has arrayed labor against capital, employer against employee, the illiterate against the educated, and the lawless against the law-abiding.

A lax, ineffective and unguarded election law was largely responsible for Bleas's last election, and will play no small part in future elections in which he participates, unless it is drastically amended, but Bleas's stronghold is the illiterate vote. Thousands who can neither read nor write, who have never crossed the threshold of a schoolhouse, who lack even a fundamental conception of right, vote unquestioningly for Bleas, and will vote for him and his favorites as long as they have an opportunity. Many of these men are men of standing and influence in their communities. A prominent lawyer in one of the richest and largest counties of South Carolina told a newspaper man last week: "Time after time men worth anything from \$10,000 to \$50,000 have come into my office, and in the course of our dealings have whispered to me that they could not read or write." Another man, a university graduate, who has become a scientific farmer, said: "The illiteracy among the whites is appalling, and it increases the danger of a powerful negro element in the electorate. Every little black child I see can read and write, but many white children cannot. We cannot keep the ballot from the negro much longer, for he is rapidly becoming educated."

Illiteracy is the curse of South Carolina, and compulsory education is its remedy. Education for all the people is the only force that can drive back a reign of terror there. The political situation in South Carolina is now the most fearful in any American State, but who can portray what it would be with a Bleas Legislature, a Bleas Judiciary, Bleas Juris, a Bleas police system, and Bleas faculties in the schools and colleges and universities? That such a condition shall ever exist

in South Carolina or any American State, God forbid!

THE PASSING KING'S POET.

The death of Alfred Austin seems likely to end the line of England's laureates. Who is there to fill the place honorably—or more, who wants to fill it? The tumult and shouting about Kipling's claim, and the somewhat innocuous character of Austin's own work, have discredited the whole theory of the dignity and genius of the King's poet. For the late incumbent, all that can be spoken is that he was an amiable gentleman, who occasionally wrote pleasing lines. In that, however, he fulfilled a long line of inconspicuous pensioners. Who recalls now Thomas Shadwell, save in the satires directed against his small wit? What meaning for the average person, even of culture, have the names Nahum Tate, Nicholas Rowe, or Laurence Eusden? William Whitehead and James Pye are lost in dusty anthologies. A good poem could be made out of these laureates of yesterday.

There have been great names among them, however. Rare Ben Jonson was regarded as the laureate, though he had no title. Davenant got a pension of £100 a year from Charles I, also without title. The first man to receive the title and office by royal letters patent was John Dryden, in 1670. In the nineteenth century three poets of true genius were given the laurel crown—Robert Southey, versatile and voluminous; William Wordsworth, mingled of transcendent genius and much tiresome bathos; Lord Tennyson, who is perhaps the only poet laureate that the present generation knows anything about.

There seems no good reason why this traditional office should be continued. It means nothing save perhaps as a means of pensioning a deserving artist. The formal writing of odes upon the King's birthday, on national victories, and upon the birth of royal infants is out of joint with the roaring times of minimum wage bills and militant suffragettes. The ode to peace is gradually displacing the martial chant. The real poet laureate is the pensioner of democracy and the printing press, and writes what the people are interested in. The king's office has trouble enough preserving its own dignity without lending prestige to a poet who adds no lustre to the crown.

Should a new versemaker arise by appointment of His Majesty, like the fellows who furnish pickles and shoes, he would be chosen, we hope, from three men: Kipling, Alfred Noyes, Stephen Phillips. The logical claimant is Noyes, the youth who is making poetry pay. An epic on "Drake" has already been published from him, and he would fit the newer English legends. Kipling has fallen from the splendor of his imperialistic doctrines, and does not write great poetry any more. Phillips is the truest poet of the dramatic and lyric line, but a rather rickety personal life would work against him, as did his amorous lines make Queen Victoria veto the choice of Swinburne. The slight interest in the new laureate hints what small significance the title holds.

SHOULD BE STAR WITNESSES.

Senator Stephenson, of Wisconsin, tell the Senate lobby investigating committee the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth about your lumber, banking and corporate interests. You are regarded as the richest member of the Senate. Are any of your holdings affected by the Underwood tariff bill?

Senator Gronna, of North Dakota, tell the committee the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth as to whether or not you own the largest individual wheat field in the world, and state how the Underwood tariff bill will affect your wheat farms, and how much you have invested in wheat farming.

Senator Newlands, of Nevada, tell the committee the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth as to your mining connections, and state whether the Underwood tariff bill affects mining in any way.

Senator Jackson, of Maryland, tell the committee the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth as to the lumber business in which you are concerned, and whether or not the Underwood tariff bill affects it?

Senator Smith, of Maryland, ditto.

President Finley, of the City College of New York, plans for a college which "will be open by night as well as by day—a place where one may find light, learning and lectures at any hour he seeks them." Most colleges are already open all day and all night, especially just before examinations, and are places where one may find light, learning, lectures and a number of other things open at any hour he seeks them.

The old Astor House, in New York, which is about to make way for a more modern structure, was one of the most famous hostilities of the country. Among its guests were Andrew Jackson, William Henry Harrison, Zachary Taylor, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Chester A. Arthur, Millard Fillmore, Benjamin Harrison, Grover Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Seward, Charles Dickens, W. T. Sherman, Winfield S. Hancock, Robert E. Lee, Joseph E. Johnston, Horace Greeley, Charles A. Dana, Henry Watterson, George Dewey, W. T. Sampson, Martin Van Buren, John Tyler, James K. Polk, Franklin Pierce, James Russell Lowell, Rufus B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, James Buchanan, William McKinley, Daniel Webster, James G. Blaine, King Edward VII, Jefferson Davis, David G. Farragut, Henry Clay, Lewis Cass, Whitelaw Reid, Murat Halstead, Lord Dunsany.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

Automobilists.

In the touring car I sit, thinking, of other dear, of you a
And our cozy little home so far away
We are standing in the road with a
tire that's gone and "blowed,"
And the engine's acting in a funny way.

Crank, crank, crank.
Our back is breaking.
Cheer up comrades if you can,
While the batteries are gone.
We will crank away till dawn.
'Tis the fate of almost every auto fan.

Though we yank upon the crank,
there is no gas in the tank,
And the carburetor quit, long, long ago.
So we cannot get up steam and we
cannot hire a team.
And it's almost time to see the
morning's glow.

Crank, crank, crank.
Our knees are shaking.
Cheer up comrades just the same.
Though the benzine bugles balk,
We can all get out and walk
Back to town nine miles, for that's
all in the game.

According to Uncle Abner,
I never heard of a man and his
wife mortgaging their automobile to
buy a house and lot.

Anybody kin run a newspaper, but
it takes an experienced hand to keep
her from skidding.

It is a durned good collar that goes
to the laundry more than three times.
There are all kinds of fools in this
country, but the worst one is the fellow
who doesn't admire the hat that
his wife makes for herself.

Hank Tummas has got his youngest
educated in new thought. When
there is no milk in the house at night
he hands the baby a milk ticket and
the kid is apparently satisfied.

Burglars got a big haul in our town
the other night. They cracked the
safe in Tibbitt's general store and got
away with two pounds of creamery
butter. They was evidently professional.

It will soon be time to get pizened
by eating mushrooms instid of tud-stools.

Every one in a while we hear one

FLIES!

Horse manure is the principal
hatching place for flies.
It can be made sterile with coal
oil, carbolic acid, copperas water or
dry loam by mixing thoroughly.

Horsemen, stablemen, owners of
horses and sanitary inspectors, pay
attention! Cut this out.

Let 1913 be a flyless year—

Abe Martin

Spring acts like a feller that's just
back from a vacation an' can't settle
down. Well, what are you goin' to
raise, chickens or flowers?

IT'S A SAD STORY, MATES

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On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

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In the touring car I sit, thinking, of other dear, of you a
And our cozy little home so far away
We are standing in the road with a
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safe in Tibbitt's general store and got
away with two pounds of creamery
butter. They was evidently professional.

It will soon be time to get pizened
by eating mushrooms instid of tud-stools.

Every one in a while we hear one

of them old Primrose, Barlow & West
jokes that is no old, that it sounds
new, and that is the kind of strut
that gets fifteen hundred in voodoo.

Some fellers are so anxious to stand
in with the administration that they
would even drink grape juice.

One of the pleasant things in this
life is to see a baldheaded feller on
a street corner sellin' hair restorer.

There is a little something wrong
with every one of your friends, but
there ain't nothing the matter with
you yourself.

There are a lot of experts on the
national currency question sittin'
around the corner grocery stores who
can't pay their bills.

I always regard with some suspi-
cion any young kid of three years
who doesn't like to get out on a sand
lot and organize a baseball team.

Mr. and Mrs. Lem Higgins have
sold their sofa mahogany parlor table
and their piano to buy gasoline.

There is an end to everything in
this world excepting automobile bills.

From the Hickeyville Clarion.
Mr. Amos Butts, our gentlemanly
and successful undertaker, also lively,
good and sales stables and folding
chairs for rent, says there is not very
much doing in any of his many lines
of endeavor and he expects to add card
writing and painting and paper hang-
ing to his accomplishments in the near
future. The undertaker has had sev-
eral prospects during the last year,
but they are all still hangin' off and
some of 'em gettin' better.

A hot-tempered woman never ought
to wear celluloid combs in her hair.
The highway commissioner is busy
mending the hole in the front of the
middle of the road in front of the
postoffice for several years. He has
hailed away several barrels of it al-
ready and expects to put the pond out
in the middle of a field belonging to
Deacon Stubbs some night when the
deacon ain't looking.

The old school, the V. M. I., where
Jackson taught young men to be brave,
is the brave day of olden times, when
the event of war with any enemy,
Japanese or Briton or any other race
of men, was decided in the field of
battle, and the victor was the one who
won for his full quota of fighting men.

The finest thing the President and
his chief of staff are making in the ef-
fort they are making to preserve the
peace. In this they should have the
sincere co-operation of all honest and
brave men.

Mr. Williams Won.
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
I have just written up of the
commencement of York Union Military
Academy the party made an error
and has been brought to my at-
tention. In this write-up of the
various honors and medals
the impression given was that Cadet
Morisset won first honor in the
athletic contests. This is not
true. The winner of first honor
and athletic contests is the late
Williams, of Saluda, Va., and I shall
thank you to give this notice through
the columns of the paper. It is em-
phatically the right impression.
It has told some of my friends that
he won this medal, while the news-
paper account gives the credit to Cadet
Morisset.

In order of athletic honors was as
follows: First place, Mortimer H.
Williams; second place, W. M. Justis;
third place, A. P. Clorious hero, W.
ERIC W. HARDY,
Headmaster.

Tributes to Stonewall Jackson.
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir, I will publish this, which I
found in the Washington correspondent
of the Philadelphia Public Ledger of
May 21, 1913.

JAMES POWER SMITH.

Honor to "Stonewall" Jackson.
Speaking of war, one is reminded
of the great war in this country and
of the men on both sides who added im-
perishable honor to American arms.
Your columns so state that Patrick
and the seed has not run out. One
of the greatest of American soldiers
was Thomas Jonathan Jackson, "Stonewall," who was fired upon by his own
soldiers at the battle of Chancellorsville
and mortally wounded on the 22
day of May, 1863.

At "Camp Paxton," near Fredericks-
burg, four days later, the officers of the
Stonewall Brigade met to pay tribute
to their dead commander, Colonel
Charles A. Reynolds, of the Fourth Vir-
ginia, was elected president of the
meeting, and Adjutant Robert W. Hunter,
of the Second Virginia, was elected
secretary. On motion of Captain H. K.
Bouquies, a committee of three—Col-
onel Nadenbousch, of the Second Vir-
ginia; Major William H. Terry, of the
Fourth Virginia, and Adjutant Robert
W. Hunter, of the Second Virginia—
was appointed to prepare appropriate
resolutions.

Hunter offered the following, which
were unanimously adopted:
Resolved, That we, the undersigned,
in the exercise of supreme and
inscrutable wisdom to strike down, in
the midst of his career of honor and
usefulness, our glorious hero, our
tenant-General T. J. Jackson, the offi-
cers and men of the brigade which he
formerly commanded, who have fol-
lowed him through the trying scenes
of this great struggle, and who, by
the blessing of Providence, under his
guidance, have been enabled to do some
good in our country's cause; who loved
and cherished him as a friend, honored

him as a great and good man, labor-
ing with hand and heart and mind for
our present and future welfare, who
obeyed and confided in him as a leader
of consummate skill and unyielding
fortitude, and who now mourn his de-
parture, unite in the following tribute of
respect to his memory:

Resolved, First, That in the death
of Lieutenant-General Jackson, the
Union has lost one of its best and
proudest sons, our country and the church
of God a bright and shining light, the
army one of its boldest and most skill-
ful leaders, and this brigade a firm and
unwavering friend.

Resolved, Second, That General
Jackson has closed his noble career by
a death worthy of his life, and that
and like mourn for him, and feel that
no other leader can be to us all that
he has been, yet we are not cast down
or dispirited, but we are determined
to do our whole duty, and if
need be give our lives for a cause made
more sacred by the blood of our
martyrs.

Resolved, Third, That in accordance
with General Jackson's wish and the
desire of this brigade to arrange for
the erection of a monument to Gen-
eral Jackson. Of all officers named in
the resolutions during the last year,
who afterwards was promoted to the
rank of major on the battlefield of
Gettysburg, for distinguished gal-
lantry, is living to-day, full of fire
as ever and ready now as he was "in
the brave day of olden times, when
the reunited country as he fought for
the land he loved so well.

Other resolutions were adopted, ap-
pointing a committee to present the
third resolution to the Secretary of
War and another committee to arrange
for the erection of a monument to Gen-
eral Jackson. Of all officers named in
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lantry, is living to-day, full of fire
as ever and ready now as he was "in
the brave day of olden times, when
the reunited country as he fought for
the land he loved so well.

Johnston.
That man is little to be envied
whose patriotism would not gain force
from the death of Chancellorsville, or
whose patriotism would not grow warmer
among the ruins of the Southern Con-
federacy.

The old school, the V. M. I., where
Jackson taught young men to be brave,
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formerly commanded, who have fol-
lowed him through the trying scenes
of this great struggle, and who, by
the blessing of Providence, under his
guidance, have been enabled to do some
good in our country's cause; who loved
and cherished him as a friend, honored

with true Southern patriotism would
now be occupying the exalted position
of this nation's chief executive.

As a resident of Manassas, and being
conversant, through membership of the
reception committee with conditions
which prevailed at the semicentennial
peace jubilee on the battlefields of Bull
Run in July, 1811, I can speak ad-
visedly as to the spirit of sincere fra-
ternization which pervaded that mem-
orable occasion. The hearty grasp of
hands, accompanied by smiles of good
cheer, between those who participated
in deadly combat half a century before
was certainly indicative of a truly
friendly spirit and of a willingness
upon the part of those who took part
in the jubilee to let "the dead past
bury its dead." Had those who now
are enlisted in opposition to the pro-
posed Richmond jubilee listened to the
encouraging words heard upon the heads of
Lee and Jackson and of Bee and Bar-
low, by those whose swords were drawn
in hostility against them on that field
of carnage in 1863, their conviction of
fostered animosity upon the part of
the rank and file of the broad-minded
"Yankee" soldier towards his former
Confederate enemy doubtless would be
greatly weakened.

Certainly the city of Richmond would
profit through business and renown
from such a proposed